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American child has been often stigmatized in my hearing as the worst brought-up in the world. But is this verdict a just one? American children, it is true, are full of nervous energy, which is not always wisely guided or held in check. Nor are they, perhaps, always sufficiently respectful of the feelings of their elders, or the respect due to their parents.

But too much, I think, is made of this characteristic. The submission of the English, German or French child is the outcome of conformity to immemorial tradition, thoughts and conduct, that combine to make what may be called the national attitude toward child life. From babyhood to adolescence much of it is outside of what in America constitutes the family circle, and the young ever breathe an atmosphere weighted with submission to authority. The freedom of our national life, often so jarring to the foreigner, gives the fullest scope for a rounded development of child life, not only in the company of brothers and sisters, but of children of divers castes and nationalities, and from much or all of which the Old World child, if in any manner of gentle birth, is rigidly excluded. While every boy and girl should be brought up to recognize the rights of society, and the regard due to their elders, it is surely best that this should be achieved without suppression of so much inward force as to result in dull mediocrity.

My contact with young women college graduates has revealed to me great changes from oldtime characteristics and methods. Yet, in spite of the trend toward athletics—which has been said to result in a man-like demeanor—I have found these girls as a rule as charmingly simple and devoid of self-consciousness as one could wish.

The beauty of American women is an ever-growing surprise and delight to me. I spent sometime at the seaside, and as I caught glimpses of group after group, in charming gowns and picturesque hats, usually carried off with grace and distinction, I was lost in admiration. To be sure, the tendency to "shine" might now and then lead to a bad case of over-dressing, but the artistic sense of the American woman is coming to be so well developed that the merely "loud" is the exception.

Coming to this bright land from long immurement, it seems to me that what distinguishes my countryman most after his obvious "push" is his love of fun, in such marked contrast to English modes of enjoyment. Oh yes, people have good times in England—they have a restful time, a quiet time, even what they call a "jolly time"—but never a time like our heart-whole fun. It would never occur to young people there to stroll from house to house summer evenings, and have an impromptu dance at one place, a game of cards at another, or a round of song at a third. No, such "fun" is beyond staid English conventionalism. And yet, how idyllic such pleasures are, under a bright moon, with the fireflies in the shadows, the crickets chirping by the wayside, and over all and through all the ring of the happy laughter of free youths and maidens!

Sauce for the Gander

By Anna Marble

"I wish," he said, "you'd learn to bake The bread that mother used to make."
"I will," quoth she, "when you indite The checks that father used to write."

"The Goal"

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